Food processing units in Punjab

1323. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the requests for starting food processing units in Punjab are pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof in each case; and

(c) by when the decision on the requests is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (c) There are sixteen applications for setting up/modernisation of food processing industries in the States of Punjab which have been pending. This includes eight applications in the oil sector, three in the fruit and vegetable processing, two each for bakery and rice milling and one dairy processing unit. Consequent on decentralization of processing and disbursement of grant under the scheme through banks and financial institutions, the pending applications are being sent to the concerned banks from which the units have taken term loan for sanction and disbursement of grant under the scheme. Necessary funds are also being provided to the banks for disbursement of grant to these units.

Setting up of National Institute of Food Technology

1324. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a National Institute of Food Technology, to address the growing manpower needs in the food processing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan of Government to promote food-processing sector in the backward States like Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, etc., to improve their rural economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) and (b) National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) is being set up at Kundli, Haryana as an international centre of excellence, which will work synergistically with industry and other institutions within India and abroad to cater to the needs of various stake holders *viz.* entrepreneurs, industry, exporters, policy makers, Government and existing institutions.

One of the main objectives of establishment of NIFTEM is to address the growing manpower needs in the food processing industry. NIFTEM would be a prime academic institution in the areas of food technology, entrepreneurship and management. It would offer courses and training programmes of global standards with optimal mix of inputs on food technology, management and entrepreneurship.

(c) A vision Document 2015 on Food Processing Industries for the country as a whole has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision,